

Contact:

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USDA Rural Development Provides \$10,000 Grant for Kaysinger Basin Regional Planning Commission Business Conference

In a ceremony held August 10, 2005, in Clinton, Missouri USDA Rural Development announced a \$10,000 grant to Kaysinger Basin Regional Planning Commission (KBRPC). The grant funds will be used to assist in the funding of the 2005 Kaysinger Business Conference, which is scheduled to be held at the Benson Convention Center in Clinton on November 1, 2005.

The conference will target start-up and expanding business owners from the surrounding counties of Bates, Benton, Cass, Cedar, Henry, Hickory, Johnson, Pettis, St. Clair and Vernon. The conference will feature Greg Steinhoff, Director, Missouri Department of Economic Development. The conference will also include several sessions throughout the day covering creative financing, securing government contracts, business plans and planning, protecting your business, starting a new business, QuickBooks Software, advertising and marketing, and web site use.

The conference will also provide an opportunity for a variety of exposition booths. Entities such as lending institutions; business consultants; federal, state, and local government agencies; and business instructional institutions will be available to share their knowledge and experience.

Congressman Ike Skelton said "This is the third year that USDA Rural Development has provided funding assistance for the Kaysinger Basin Regional Planning Commission's annual conference. This important conference brings together business leaders from across the region, offering business development advice and networking opportunities which contribute to economic development in rural Missouri."

"USDA Rural Development is pleased to provide funding for this worthwhile project," said Greg Branum, Missouri State Director for USDA Rural Development. "Appreciation is extended to U.S. Senators Kit Bond and Jim Talent and U.S. Congressman Ike Skelton for supporting USDA Rural Development. They have been strong proponents for the necessary funding for essential programs such as this."

"This is a great partnership effort when everyone works together for a common goal of meeting the needs of rural Missourians," Lois East, Rural Development Manager said. "I want to personally thank everyone that has worked together to make this project a reality."

If you are interested in participating in this conference or obtaining more information about the conference please contact KBRPC at (660) 885-3393 or City of Clinton office at (660) 885-6121. Information regarding USDA - Rural Development programs can be obtained by contacting the local office at 1306 North 2nd Street, Clinton or by



phone at (660) 885-5567 ext. 4. You can also obtain information by visiting the Missouri Rural Development web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/mo>.

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